

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are well and truly into autumn term now. The children have settled well into their new classes, and they are getting back into the routines and expectations. Some children might be finding that the next step in their learning journey a challenge – the work might feel harder; the expectations might be greater - this is completely normal. If you are concerned about your child's learning or well-being, please speak to their class teacher and share your concerns so you can work together to support your child.

Next week, as part of our ongoing commitment to safeguarding and promoting healthy, respectful relationships, pupils in Year 3 and Year 4 will take part in age-appropriate consent workshops. We hope to be able to roll this out to Year 4 and Year 5 to ensure all our children feel safe in their friendships and have the skills and confidence to express their choices.

One of the things I value most about being part of the Roehampton community is the strong relationships that develop over time. Our families know one another well, and we see genuine friendships and trust grow year after year. We are also proud that many parents and carers choose The Alton, not only as a school for their children but as their place of employment. To ensure clarity around professional roles and responsibilities, please do not request school-related information from staff members who may also be personal friends. This places them in a very difficult position, as sharing confidential information could lead to disciplinary action.

Thank you for your understanding and for helping us maintain a professional and safe working environment for everyone.

Linsay Thomson
Headteacher

Important Dates

Last day of Autumn Term 1: Friday 23 October

Autumn Half Term: Monday 26 October to Friday 30 October

Inset Day: Monday 2 November – school closed to children

First day of Autumn Term 2: Tuesday 3 November

Last day of Autumn Term 2: Friday 18 December

Full term dates for the 2026-27 year are [on our website](#).

Our number one priority is to ensure that all children and adults are safe.

If you are worried about something or if you are worried about someone else, you can talk to ANYONE who works for the school. Safeguarding is the responsibility of EVERYONE. Childline: 0800 1111

Is your child starting Reception in September 2027?

We will be holding a Reception open morning for families wanting to join the school in September 2027. It will take place on **Thursday 19 November** from 9.30am. To find out more or sign up, [please complete this short form](#).

Weather Changes

Autumn is here and the weather can be quite changeable. For the cold mornings, please ensure your child has appropriate warm clothing.

Morning play can be a little cold before it warms up by lunchtime.

School Uniform

We are seeing more children coming to school with **nail varnish**. Please keep this for weekends and holidays and **ensure it is removed for school**.

For health and safety reasons, please **ensure children with pierced ears are wearing stud earrings**. Any hoop type earring are a risk in school and must not be worn to school.

Talk Consent Workshops

As part of our ongoing commitment to safeguarding and promoting healthy, respectful relationships, pupils in **Year 3 and Year 4** will take part in age-appropriate consent workshops on **Monday 28 September**.

These sessions are designed to help children understand personal boundaries, develop confidence in expressing their own choices, and recognise the importance of respecting the choices of others.

The workshops will be delivered by trained facilitators and will use activities and discussions that are suitable for the children's age and developmental stage.

Secondary School Open Days

For our Year 6 parents and Acers, secondary schools have already started their open days. Please [follow this link for the full list of dates](#). **Please check school websites for details as you need to book your place in advance.**

[Ark Putney](#) – Monday 28 September, 4 - 7pm, and booked tours on 29 & 30 September and 20-24 October.

[Burntwood School](#) – Thursday 1 October, 9.15-11am.

[Lift Richmond Park](#) (formerly Richmond Park Academy) – Thursday 1 October, 6-8pm

[Saint Cecilia's](#) – Tuesday 6 October, 9am - noon

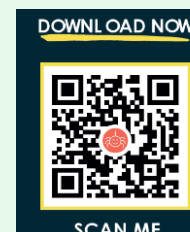
[St John Bosco](#) – Thursday 1 October, 4.30 - 6.30pm, Thursday 8 October and Thursday 15 October, 9 - 11am

[Southfields Academy](#) – Thursday 1 October, Tuesday 6 October, Tuesday 13 October, Wednesday 14 October, Thursday 15 October and Tuesday 20 October, 8.45-10.15am. Thursday 8 October, 5.30 - 7.30pm

School Spider

All parents and carers need to download and sign into the School Spider app.

We use School Spider to send you all the information you need from school. If you need support, please ask at the office. [For Android phones](#) [For Apple phones](#)



Follow us on social:  [@the_alton_primary_school](#)

Wellbeing and SEND Support

The SWLSTG Education Wellbeing Service offers free parent webinars across the year to help support your child's wellbeing and mental health: [Early Years \(Nursery and Reception\)](#), [Primary \(Years 1 – 6\)](#)

Their next Early Years webinars are on: [Feeding and its difficulties in the Early Years webinar on 5 October at 12pm](#) and Building Strong Bonds: How to build Healthy and Secure Attachment with Children [on 8 October at 7pm](#), and [14 October at 12.30pm](#).

For Years 1-6, they have Through the school gates, overcoming daily challenges getting into school [on 5 October at 7.30pm](#), and [9 October at 1pm](#). Sign up for free via the links.

The Family Information Service [has resources available](#) to help families with children with SEND.